

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

as a field for European Emigration

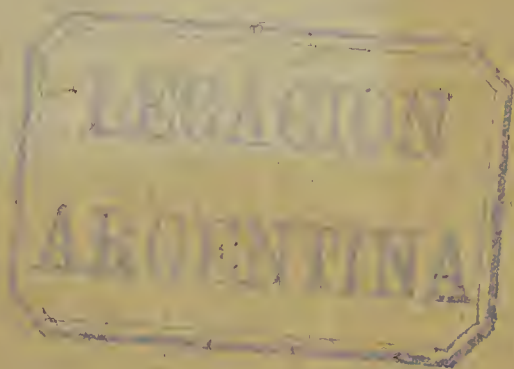
A Statistical and Geographical Review of the Country
and its resources

WITH ALL ITS VARIOUS FEATURES,

BY

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BUENOS AIRES

1883

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Divers Articles of the Law of Immigration, enacted by the Argentine Congress, at Buenos Aires (Oct. 6th 1876) and which chiefly concern intending emigrants from Europe.

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Art. 9. The Bureau of Immigration at Buenos Aires and the Commissions at their various head quarters shall, whenever it may be necessary, have placed under their direct control a Labour and Employment Bureau to be served by such a number of employés, as may be fixed by the Budget.

Art. 10. Said Offices are bound and empowered :

- 1st. To attend to such applications of masters, artisans, journeymen or workmen as may be sent in to them.
 2. To secure advantageous terms for the employment of immigrants and to see that such employment be given by people of good repute.
 3. To take cognizance at the request of the immigrants of such agreements as to work as said immigrants may make and to see to their strict observance on the part of masters.
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Art. 11. At such places where there are no employment-offices, the duties incumbent on these will be carried out by the Commission of Immigration.

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Art. 14. Every immigrant on giving sufficient proof of his good conduct and fitness for any occupation, art or useful trade, will be entitled, on his arrival, to the following special privileges;

1. To be boarded and lodged at the expense of the Nation during the time fixed by articles 45, 46 and 47.
 2. To have employment given him in such calling or trade as there may be in the country, and which he may prefer.
 3. To be transported at the expense of the Nation to such locality in the Republic as he may select for residence.
 4. To import free of duty articles for personal use, clothing, furniture for domestic purposes, agricultural implements, tools, utensils, instruments of such arts and trades as they may exercise, and one fowling-piece to each adult immigrant, to such amount as may be fixed by the Executive.
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Art. 20. None of the immigrant-ships referred to in the preceding articles (1) will admit more than one person to every two tons. This will not apply to children from 1 to 8 years old, who are to be reckoned at the rate of 1 per ton.

Art. 21. Every passenger will be entitled to occupy 1,30 square m. of space, should the height of the deck be 2,28 m.; to 1,33 square m. should the height be 1,83 m.; and to 1,49 square m.; should it be 1,66 m. This will not apply to children of less than a year old, and two children of less than 8 years of age will be counted as one passenger.

Art. 22. The space between decks will be at least 1,66 m. high and must invariably be free of incumbrances in order to allow of passengers passing to and fro.

Art. 23. Passengers beds will be at least 1,83 m. long on the inside, by 0,50 m. and only two rows of beds will be allowed in each cabin.

Art. 24. Every immigrant-ship will be provided with such ventilators, pumps, cooks, galleys &c. and other departments as are necessary for hygienic purposes, and for the security and convenience of the passengers in accordance with such regulations as may be drawn up.

Art. 25. Every immigrant-ship will be provided with the requisite life-boats and life-preservers, according to the number of passengers.

Art. 26. Every immigrant-ship will carry a doctor on board, as also an apothecary provided with all requisite drugs.

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Art. 38. The landing of immigrants will be carried out at the expense of the Nation and by the employés appointed for the purpose at the Immigration Offices.

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Art. 42. At the cities of Buenos Aires, Rosario, and at all such others where, owing to the number of immigrants, it may be necessary, there will be a house for their temporary lodgment.

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Art. 44. At such places where there should not be any houses for the accommodation of immigrants, the respective Commissions will proceed to board and lodge the same at public hotels or in other suitable ways.

Art. 45. Immigrants will be entitled to suitable board and lodging, at the expense of the Nation, for five days after landing.

Article 46. In case of serious illness which should render it impossible for them to remove to another habitation, at the expiration of said five days, the expense of the succeeding board and lodging will continue to be met by the State, as long as said illness continues.

Except in such cases the continuance of immigrants at the Depot for more than five days will be at their own expense, at the rate of

(1) These articles concern Immigrant-ships,

two shillings a day for every person more than 8 years old, and one shilling for every child below that age.

Art. 47. The regulations contained in the preceding articles do not include immigrants having contracts with Government in connection with the Colonies. All such will be entitled to board and lodging free of charge until transported to their destination.

Art. 48. The Employment Bureaux or the Immigration Commissions in their stead, will use their best endeavours to provide immigrants with employment in such art, trade, or calling as they may prefer.

Art. 49. Such employment will be procured if possible within five days after the immigrant's arrival, and on as favourable terms as possible.

Art. 50. The Employment Bureaux or the Immigration-Commissions in their stead will, at the request of the interested parties, take cognizance of such contracts for employment as they may make, with a view to securing for the immigrant their fulfillment.

Art. 51. Any immigrant who should prefer to fix his residence in any of the interior Provinces of the Republic, or at any of its Colonies, will be at once transported with his family and luggage to such place as he may select, free of all charge.

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Advantages of the Argentine Republic for the European labourer and intending emigrant.

The European labourer readily finds work here, the remuneration for which is, in proportion to expenses, so considerable that within a short time he is enabled to save not a little without having to undergo any great privations.

In the most civilized and free countries in the world the immigrant will not meet with greater personal liberty and a more effective security for life and property than there is here. The most absolute freedom as regards his creed and the manifestation of his opinions, the exercise of his calling and everything connected with his movements is enjoyed by the foreigner in this free country.

The immigrant is not obliged to serve the State in any way or form and the taxes he has to pay conjointly with the native inhabitant are far below those that overburden him in Europe.

Here, by means of some small thrift or other, the European labourer becomes owner of the land he desires to cultivate and thus instead of being a day-labourer, a mere drudge, as he was previously, is converted into an independent proprietor.

Whatever his nationality, the European will find countrymen of his scattered all over the vast territory of the Republic, and thus has no cause to fear that owing to ignorance of the language he will be obliged to suffer a painful isolation.

So healthy and mild is the climate of this country that the European can continue the habits acquired at home, without any fear on the score of health.

Here earth, water and air are propitious to cultivation in all its branches, and the agriculturist has only to select the locality to have his exertions rewarded by splendid vintages and crops of sugar cane, wine, oil, cereals and vegetables.

The European peasant together with the air of liberty he breathes here and his pecuniary and physical well-being, learns to develop his self-reliance and thus the mere tool that was, is very soon changed into a man who thinks and acts for himself and who promptly throws off all subjection to the disposal of another.

Divers articles of the Land-Law enacted by the Argentine Congress, at Buenos Aires, on Oct. 24th 1882, and which concern intending emigrants from Europe.

SECTION III.

Sales of land for agricultural purposes.

The whole of the territories in Misiones as also such as may be set apart for agriculture in the Pampa, Chaco and Patagonia, are hereby declared to be arable and their transfer will be carried out on the following conditions:

1. Upon the approval of the plans which, in accordance with the provisos of article 9, are to be drawn up by the Bureau of Engineers, they will be published together with the respective reports and distributed throughout the Republic and in Foreign Countries.
2. One single person or company cannot buy less than 25 hectares nor more than four lots or, say, 400 hectares, in one single section. (1)
3. The purchase will be made by application in writing to the Chief of the Land Bureau who will enter in a special Register the day and hour of its presentation, stating the exact locality applied for. This entry will be signed by the applicant or by his duly authorized representative.
4. The price for the sale of land in Misiones and Chaco will be 8 shillings the hectare and in the Pampa and Patagonia 6 shillings.
5. Payment will be made in the following form: a fifth part cash & the remainder in four equal parts, one at the end of each year.

(1) The Sections are: The Pampa, Patagonia, Chaco, and Misiones.

	£, s, d.		£, s, d.
Every 100 kilograms of wheat	0, 6, 7	One yerba mate (prepared)	0, 0, 2½
One kilogram of starch	0, 0, 2½	« sugar in general	0, 0, 2½
« « « coffee	0, 0, 2½	« litre ordinary wine in	
« « « vermicelli	0, 0, 3	cask	0, 0, 2½
« « fine biscuits and		« « good wine in cask	0, 0, 9½
other pastry	0, 4	Every bottle not containing	
k. Corn flour and indian		more than a litre of wine	
corn flour	0, 0, 2	of whatever kind	0, 0, 9½
« shelled Indian corn	0, 0, 1	A litre or a bottle of beer or	
« all kinds of tea	0, 1	cider	0, 0, 5

Art. 2nd. The following articles may be imported duty free:
Machinery for works and steamers, blood stock and live cattle, fresh fish, fresh fruit, furniture and implements belonging to immigrants and of small value, stamped gold and silver, in the grain, in bars or in dust, live plants, rails, wedges, iron transoms and screws, shunting apparatus, locomotives and wheels with or without axles, for railroads or tramways, iron tubes not galvanised, for gaz or water works, of a diameter of at least 75 millimetres, mercury, fan guards, combos of more than two kilos, centre-bits and special mining powder, such seeds as the Executive may consider not to be intended for other but agricultural purposes, specifics for sheep diseases, articles for purposes of religions worship at the request of prelates.

Art. 3^d. All kinds of produce and manufactures are free of export duty, with the exception of the following which will pay 6% duty on their value:

Animal oil, horns, preserved meat, boneash, horsehair, bones, unwashed or washed wool, skins in general, unwashed or washed sheepskins, ostrich feathers, tallow.

Art. 4th. All exoneration of duties on imports and exports is prohibited unless expressly fixed by the present Law, except in the cases of concessions by special laws or contracts arising from laws dictated by Congress.

Art. 5th. The duties will be paid according to a tariff of valuation drawn up on the basis of the true price of the articles in deposit as regards imports; and on that of the current prices, ready for embarkation, as regards exports. The import duties of articles not included in the tariff will be paid on the value they represent in deposit, declared to by the importers or clearers.

Art. 6th.

Means of Communication.

A.—Railways:

Last year there were (worked):

National Lines	klm.	907
Railways with National Govt security	«	637,2
« of the Province of Buenos Aires	«	1079,0
	klm.	2623,2
Lines (in construction, on study and being planned) were:		
National Lines	klm.	1217
Lines (with security of National Govt)	«	579
« in the Province of Buenos Aires	«	981,95
	klm.	2777,95

So that in a short time 5637,95 klm. of railway will be handed over to the public.

The working of the railways of the Province of Buenos Aires have given the following results during the year 1881:

LINES	Extension in Kilometres	ROUGH PROFITS	EXPENSES	PROFITS
Southern	562	£ 452403	£ 187437	£ 264967
Western	349	« 334594	« 168120	« 166474
Campana	81	« 47130	« 29930	« 17200
Ensenada	57	« 58131	« 35952	« 22179
Northern	30	« 46268	« 24616	« 21652
	1079	£ 938326	£ 446055	£ 492472

The total amount of capital employed on the railways is £ 6581953, thus we find that the total amount of profits represents a mean interest of 7,47 %, which is for each separate railroad as follows:

LINE	CAPITAL IN OPERATION PRODUCED AS INTEREST	ROUGH PROFIT ON 1 OF EXPENSES	PROFITS PER KILOMETER
Southern	9,695 %	2,4	£ 471
Western	9,054 «	2,0	« 477
Campana	1,958 «	1,6	« 212
Ensenada	3,200 «	1,6	« 389
Northern	4,929 «	1,9	« 722

Railway Grants
(1 mile = 1,609 klm.);

Concession	ROUTE	GUARANTEE				OBSERVATIONS
		OF	ON	per	for years	
1863	Rosario to Cordoba	7 %	£ 6400	mile	40	Constructed
1869	Concordia to M. Caseros	7 »	» 10000	»	40	»
1870	B. Aires to Campana	7 »	» 4938	klm.	20	»
1873	Santa Fé to Santiago	7 »	» 4000	»	20	In constr'on
1873	Concordia to Gualag'chú	7 »	» 4800	»	20	»
1873	B. Aires to Rosario	7 »	» 4000	»	10	»
1873	Punta del Negro to Copiapó (Chili)	7 »	» 3600	»	20	»
1874	Mercedes to Corrientes	7 »	» 5000	»	20	»
1874	Of the 8th km. of the Tucuman, railway to Saldan	7 »	» 2400	»	20	»

Besides which there are several other rail-road grants of wick the construction is as doubtful as is that of some of those already mentioned.

The Central - Argentine railway (Rosario to Cordoba) works were inaugurated on April 20th, 1863, and 7 years later, on May 18th, 1870, the locomotives made their first trip from Rosario to Cordoba.

This railway is 396,06 klm. long and the gauge 1,68 m. broad.
The National Government has guaranteed it 7% per annum on £ 6400 per mile during 40 years. In 1881 the line transported 94332 passengers and 143124 tons of cargo. Its rough profits were in the same year £ 251526, its working expenses £ 113666, and its profits £ 137860. These profits surpass by £ 26702 the 7% guaranteed, on which account said surplus was handed over to the National Government as partial reimbursement for sums previously advanced by the same, to make up said 7%.

In order that the reader may be able to form an idea at all events of the fares on our railways, I will state that on an average they cost:

WESTERN LINE			
<i>(Province of Buenos Aires)</i>			
1 st class ticket	} from £ 0, s. 8, d. 18 to £ 0, s. 11, d. 2 }	}	per 100 klm.
2 nd " "			
CENTRAL - ARGENTINE			
<i>(Rosario to Cordoba)</i>			
1 st class ticket	} £ 0, s. 12, d. 2 }	}	per 100 klm.
2 nd " "			

On the other lines the fares are more or less the same.

B. Navigation.

The following figures give an account of the foreign and home navigation that there has been at the ports of the Republic, in 1882.

Foreign Navigation.

ENTERED	Number of Ships	Tons	SAILED	Number of Ships	Tons
Sailing ships (cargo)	2422	396286	Sailing ships (cargo)	1072	204859
« (ballast)	609	26841	« « (ballast)	951	163066
Steamers (cargo)	2025	907995	Steamers (cargo)	1637	853678
« (ballast)	1015	196931	« (ballast)	1135	226536
Total	6071	1528054	Total	4765	1448139

Home Navigation

ENTERED	Number of Ships	Tons	SAILED	Number of Ships	Tons
Sailing ships (cargo)	10252	286152	Sailing ships (cargo)	9582	275431
« « (ballast)	5473	102313	« « (ballast)	6613	224907
Steamers (cargo)	4297	1091330	Steamers (cargo)	3659	819872
« (ballast)	1705	260138	« (ballast)	2353	478561
Total	21727	1829933	Total	22207	1798871

As regards foreign navigation the following was the percentage of shipping according to ports and flags:

PORTS	FLAGS
Buenos Aires	English
Rosario	French
Concordia	National
Colon	Italian
La Paz	German
Guauguaychú	Brazilian
San Nicolás	United States
Bella Vista	Uruguayan
Paraná	Spanish
Corrientes	Belgian
Other ports	Other flags
100 %	100 %

Home navigation which is almost entirely confined to the Paraná, Uruguay and the Plate rivers has given the following results in 1882: Buenos Aires and Campana Ports 24%: Rosario 17%: San Nicolás 13%; and the rest to the remaining ports, in which shipping 57% had be done under national flag, 24 % under english and the rest under other flags.

According to the Register furnished in accordance with the Decree of November 19th, 1879 we then had:

36 screw steamers, of 2103,80 tons and 1599 horse power
10 wheel « « 1949,20 « « 1191 « «

46 steamers 4053 2790 horse power
besides which there were 2499 sailing vessels with a total capacity of 37417 tons, including 1292 smaller boats of from 1 to 6 tons.

C.—Stage-Coaches.

On the routes where business is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the rail-roads, there are numerous lines of stage-coaches which carry passengers and their luggage and small parcels. The Federal Government grants an annual subsidy to all these lines amounting to £ 2000.

Thus there are in the Province of Buenos Aires 51 stage lines, with 262 coaches and 10988 horses, and 935 men.

7000 klm. of high roads and 227 bridges increase the facility of journeying. The total number of bridges is 1054 of which 827 belong to the various railways. The greater part of said bridges are made of iron, and among them there are some which have cost over £ 20000.

In the Province of Córdoba there are 4 lines of stage-coaches-which during the last year carried 5185 persons and 135850 k. of luggage and parcels. The usual charge for passage in these coaches is 12 shillings for every 100 k.

In the province of Salta there are 5 stage-lines, the coaches of which have made 300 trips there and back during the last year. Passengers 2800, luggage and parcels 60000 k. The average cost of the ticket for the journey is for every 100 klm. (between Salta, Tucuman and Jujuy) £ 1, s. 4 and between Salta and Cerrillos and Rosario de Lerma 12 shillings.

In the Province of Entre-Rios there are 18 lines of stage-coaches which go over 1571 klm. On said lines last year there were 5634 passengers and 15000 k. luggage and parcels. The average cost of a passage for every 100 klm. is, on these stage lines, £ 1, and the freight for an arrobe (1 arrobe=11,485 k. 3 shillings.

In San Luis there are two lines, in Mendoza 4, in Santa-Fé 14 and so on in the other provinces.

D.—Post-Offices.

The following figures afford an account of the epistolary correspondence kept up during last year (1882), in the Argentine Republic:

Correspondence with foreign Parts	3571111 pieces
« « Home	14186499 «
Total	17757610 «

The whole is subdivisable as follows:

Letters	10227840 pieces
Printed matter	6867850 «
Official «	661920 «
Total	17757610 «

6. Purchasers will sign bills for the portion of the price to be paid by installment and may discount them in the form established in the 11th clause of article 12. (1)
7. The Chief of the Land Bureau will furnish purchasers with a printed certificate on a sheet of stamped paper of 1 shilling which certificate can not be transferred to another, and which will bear the signature of the Chief of the Land Bureau and be *visé*d by the Accountant General.
8. These areas can only become the property of such persons as may engage to cultivate them, and they will be under the obligation of cultivating within the three first years the fifth part of each lot they may have purchased.
9. Such purchasers of land as should fail to meet obligations as these become due will be subject to the rules laid down in the 10th. clause of article 12. (2)
10. The Head Officer of the Land Bureau will in private sales be guided by the dispositions contained in clauses 16 and 17 (3) of Article 12, Chapter II.
11. Upon the fulfillment of all the conditions established by the present Law and upon payment of the whole amount of the land, the Executive will direct the Chief Government Notary to draw up the requisite deed of sale in the interested party's name.

25. Purchasers of land are bound to pay Income and other taxes on landed property the year after the purchase of the same, even should the title-deed of the definite transfer not have been made over to them.

Articles taken from the chapter headed "Declarations, Rights and Guarantees" of the Argentine Constitution, which concern the intending settler in America.

Arte. 1. The Argentine Nation adopts the representative republican federal form of Government, as set forth in this Constitution.

Arte. 4. The Federal Government meets the expenses of the Nation with the funds of the National Treasury, formed of the proceeds of the import and export duties, of that on the sale and location of lands belonging to the Republic, of the post-office revenue, of such other taxes as Congress may decree in a fair manner and in proportion to the population, and of such loans and credit transactions as said Congress may prescribe with a view to attending to urgent needs of the Country or on business of national utility.

Arte. 8. The citizens of each Province enjoy all the rights, privileges and immunities that belong to the condition of citizen in the others. The extradition of criminals is a matter of mutual obligation for all the Provinces.

Arte. 10. In the interior of the Republic, the circulation of national products or fabrics is free of duty, as also that of all kinds of stuffs and articles of trade which have passed the frontier or maritime custom-houses.

Arte. 11. Such national or foreign products or fabrics, as also every kind of cattle, that are passed through the territory of one Province into another will be free of the so-called *in transitu* duties; this will likewise apply to the vehicles, ships or beasts of burden employed for said purpose,—and no further tax, whatever its denomination, can be imposed, for the passing from one place to another of the territory.

Arte. 12. Ships bound from one Province to another will not be obliged to enter, anchor and pay passage duties and in no case can any preference be granted by laws or commercial regulations to one port over another.

(1) The clause says as follows: Should the interested parties desire to make payment in full or forestall the coming due of one or two of their bills, the 6 % annual interest will be discounted.

(2) The clause says as follows: "Should the bills on becoming due not be paid, the term will for once be extended another year at 6% yearly interest, and should the bill be still unpaid after renewal, or should the engagements entered into by the purchaser according to clause 8 not be fulfilled, the Head Officer of the Central Land and Colonies Bureau will proceed to sell, on behalf of the buyer, the land in public auction giving notice of this 15 days beforehand.

(3) Said dispositions are merely of an administrative character and of no direct importance to the immigrant, as such.

Arte. 14. All the inhabitants of the Nation enjoy the following rights in accordance with such laws for their regulation as may be enacted, viz: to work and exercise every lawful occupation; to navigate and trade; to petition the authorities; to enter, remain in, pass through and leave Argentine territory; to publish their opinions through the press free of all previous control; to make use and dispose of their property; to associate for useful purposes; to profess their creed in all freedom; to teach and to learn.

Arte. 15. In the Argentine Nation there are no slaves; the few that (1) actually exist are free immediately this Constitution is sworn and a special law will provide for such indemnities as this declaration may give rise to. Every contract for the purchase and sale of persons is a crime for which those who enter into it will be held responsible as also the notary public or public officer who should authorize it; and such slaves as should enter the country, in whatever way or form, are free from the mere fact of setting foot on the territory of the Republic.

Arte. 16. The Argentine Nation does not admit any prerogative whatever, of blood or birth: there are no personal exceptions nor titles of nobility. All its inhabitants are equal as regards the law and are eligible for public offices without any further requisite than that of competence. Equality is the foundation for taxation and public charges.

Arte. 17. Property is inviolable and no inhabitant of the country can be deprived of such as he may have except by virtue of a lawful decision of a Court. Expropriation on account of public utility must be qualified by law and indemnity previously given. Congress alone can impose the taxation spoken of in Arte. 4. No personal service can be exacted except by virtue of the law or of a decision founded thereon.

Every author or inventor is the exclusive owner of his work, invention or discovery for such period as the law may fix.

Confiscation of property is forever erased from the Argentine Penal Code.

No armed force can make requisitions nor exact help of any kind.

Arte. 18. No inhabitant of the country can be condemned to punishment without previously being tried according to law enacted before the suit, neither can he be judged by special commissions nor transferred from the jurisdiction of the judges appointed by law enacted previous to the trial of the case. No one can be obliged to depose against himself; nor can he be arrested except by written warrant of the competent authorities. The defense of the person and of rights before a court is inviolable. One's house is inviolable, as is also epistolary correspondence and private papers, and a law will determine in what cases and with what warrants the former may be entered and the latter taken possession of. Capital punishment for political motives, every kind of torment and the lash are done away with for ever. The prisons of the Nation are to be healthy and clean, their object being to secure and not to punish the accused therein detained and for every measure that on the pretext of precaution should tend to inflict on them more pain than said precaution may require, the judge who should authorize it will be responsible.

Arte. 19. Such of man's private acts as do not in any way offend public order and morality nor cause damage to a third party belong to God alone and do not come under the jurisdiction of magistrates. No inhabitant of the nation shall be obliged to do what is not enjoined by law, nor shall he be deprived from doing what the law does not forbid.

Arte. 20. Foreigners on the territory of the Republic enjoy all the civil rights of the citizen: they can exercise their calling, trade and profession; own, buy and transfer landed property; navigate the rivers and coast along the shores; freely practise their creed, make wills and marry in accordance with the laws. They are not bound to admit citizenship nor to pay forced extraordinary contributions. They obtain nationalization by residing in the country for two whole consecutive years but the respective authority can lessen this term in favour of an applicant who should take the ground of and prove his having done services to the State.

Arte. 21. Every Argentine citizen is bound to take up arms in defense of his country and of this Constitution, in accordance with such respective laws as Congress may enact and with the decrees of the National Executive. Citizens by naturalization are at liberty to serve or not for the term of ten years from the day of their obtaining their naturalization papers.

Arte. 25. The Federal Government will encourage European immigration and will not restrict, limit, nor tax in any way the entry into Argentine territory of such foreigners whose object it may be to till the soil, improve trade, and introduce and teach science and art.

Arte. 26. The navigation of the rivers in the interior is free for the flags of all Nations subject only to such regulations as the National Authorities may make.

Arte. 27. The Federal Government is bound to strengthen its relations of peace and commerce with foreign powers by means of treaties based on the principles of public law as set forth in this Constitution.

Arte. 32. The Federal Congress will enact no law to restrict the freedom of the press, nor place the press under Federal jurisdiction.

(1) The date of this Constitution is September 25, 1860.